

CLAIMS:

1. A method of deactivating an allergen, the method comprising dispersing into an airspace containing or able to support said allergen an allergen-
5 deactivating amount of an allergen-deactivating compound (hereinafter the "deactivant") comprising one or more of the following compounds:

a citrus oil;
a mint oil;
10 bois de rose oil;
oil of jasmine;
frankincense;
oil of bergamot; and
oil of lemon grass.

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2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the deactivant is dispersed into the airspace as a vapour over an extended period, by the use of heat.

3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the deactivant is dispersed
20 via a wick dipped into a reservoir of the deactivant.

4. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the deactivant is provided as a water-in-oil emulsion containing up to 2% by weight of the deactivant.

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5. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the deactivant is incorporated into a candle which is burnt in the space to be treated.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the candle comprises at least
30 2% by weight of the deactivant (wt of deactivant/wt of combustible body of the candle).

7. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the deactivant is dispersed into the airspace on two or more occasions, separated by period(s) of no deactivant dispersal.
- 5 8. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the deactivant is a said oil in its as-extracted form.
9. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, and which employs as deactivant two or more of said compounds, wherein said compounds are co-
- 10 dispersed into the airspace.
10. A method as claimed in claim 9, and employing one of the following deactivant combinations:
- 15 oil of bergamot and bois de rose oil;
oil of lemon grass and bois de rose oil;
a citrus oil and oil of bergamot;
a citrus oil and oil of jasmine.
- 20 11. Use in deactivating an allergen at a locus of one or more of the following materials:
- a citrus oil;
a mint oil;
- 25 bois de rose oil;
oil of jasmine;
frankincense;
oil of bergamot;
oil of lemon grass.

12. Use of one or more of the following materials:

- 5 a citrus oil;
 a mint oil;
 bois de rose oil;
 oil of jasmine;
 frankincense;
 oil of bergamot;
 oil of lemon grass;

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dispersed into an airspace in order to deactivate an allergen on a surface which is within that airspace.

13. An allergen deactivant, being one of the following:

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- a mixture of oil of bergamot and bois de rose oil;
 a mixture of oil of lemon grass and bois de rose oil;
 a mixture of a citrus oil and oil of bergamot;
 a mixture of a citrus oil and oil of jasmine.

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